

**HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF MESA
MESA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, LOWER LEVEL
57 EAST FIRST STREET
OCTOBER 16, 2008
-MEETING MINUTES-**

MEMBERS

Dr. Jerry Davis
Douglas Gerlach
John Gutierrez (Excused)
Raymond Jones
Kimberly Nuzman
Rhonda Oliver

Linda Starr
Sophia Tesch

STAFF

Mary Brandon
Carolyn Olson
Lisa Wilson

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Raymond Jones convened the meeting at 5:35p.m. Human Services Advisory Board (HSAB) members and other attendees introduced themselves. Mr. Douglas Gerlach was introduced as a new member of the HSAB.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

No items were presented to the Board at this time.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2008 MINUTES

Mr. Raymond Jones had a question on the September 11, 2008 Board Retreat minutes regarding the facilitator's awareness chart under "dying" if it should be dependent instead of independent elderly and disabled. Ms. Lisa Wilson will check with Karen Kurtz to verify that the information is correct.

Mr. Raymond Jones made a motion to approve the September 11, 2008 minutes with any needed corrections. Linda Starr seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously voted to approve the September 11, 2008 minutes.

RETREAT RESULTS

TALKING POINTS

In the September 11, 2008 HSAB Retreat an action item was to bring forth ideas for key indicators that can be used for the website for educating the City of Mesa citizens regarding human service issues. After some discussion it was decided that the Board will receive statistical reports designed to track agency information, including their targets, successes and where there may be gaps in services.

BOARD ELECTIONS

It was decided to postpone the Board Elections until the November 20, 2008 Board Meeting so that all members can participate.

STAFF REPORTS ANNOUNCEMENTS

A BETTER COMMUNITY (ABC) UTILITY DONATION PROGRAM

Ms. Lisa Wilson played the commercial for abc program that will run on channel 11.

Ms. Lisa Wilson shared the new abc buttons and brochures. They will be available at Customer Service, City of Mesa Libraries, City Hall at the Mall (Superstition Springs Mall) event on October 25, 2008, added to the abc website and also as a reminder on the electrical bills. Information Services is working to include PayPal on the website. This would enable anyone to donate to the program online. Ms. Lisa Wilson will look into adding the abc link on other agencies' websites. Board members were asked to educate people about the abc program using brochures that will be provided.

ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS

The City will begin accepting proposals for CDBG/HOME projects and Human Services and Emergency Shelter Grant programs in November. The online application process training and information meeting will be held on November 4 and November 12. Agencies will be required to register for training before they can apply for funding.

FUNDING/BUDGET UPDATE

The City of Mesa will face potential budget cuts for FY 2009-10. Each City Department has been asked to identify where cuts can be made.

NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM

The City of Mesa will be applying to receive \$9.6 million from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funds would be used for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP), which will be used to stabilize neighborhoods that have been affected by increased numbers of abandoned or foreclosed housing. Mesa will focus on the 85204 area code, which has the most crime, foreclosures, sub-prime mortgages and code violations. Non-profit organizations can apply to Housing Services Division to participate. The City of Mesa will have 18 months to obligate the money and 4 years to complete the projects. The application is due to HUD by December 1, 2008.

TALKING POINTS

Ms. Lisa Wilson put together some talking points that can be used by the Board when speaking to members of City Council or others regarding Mesa human service needs.

ADJOURN

With no other agenda items to be discussed, Chair Raymond Jones adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:23p.m.